Pending cases of pension to freedom fighters belonging to erstwhile state of Hyderabad

3236. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the cases regarding grant of pension to freedom fighters belonging to erstwhile State of Hyderabad are pending for a long time;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the number of such applications pending with Government;

(d) whether the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh had written a letter to the Home Ministry for early sanction; and

(e) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO): (a) to (c) No application, complete in all respects, duly verified and recommended by the concerned State Governments, eligible for Swatantrata Sainik Samman Pension as per the extant guidelines of the Government of India, is pending.

(d) and (e) Yes Sir, The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh wrote a letter on 27.02.2001 and again handed over a note to the Home Minister on 21.05.2001 alongwith a Memorandum given to him by some freedom fighters of Andhra Pradesh. After consideration of the issues raised, replies have been given to the Chief Minister on 11.05.2001 and 20.06.2001 respectively.

CBI cases against MCD Engineering staff

3237. SHRI W. ANGOU SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Engineering staff of Municipal Corporation of Delhi arrested by CBI for amassing assets disproportionate to their known sources of income by corrupt means from 1st January, 1999 to 15th March, 2001;

(b) whether the investigations in all cases have been completed;

(c) if so, whether they have been suspended and challenged in the court of law;

(d) if not, the reasons for the delay; and

(e) whether CBI is also contemplating steps to attach their properties?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO): (a) During the period under reference, the CBI arrested five Engineers of Municipal Corporation of Delhi in connection with their being allegedly in possession of assets disproportionate to their known sources of income.

(b) to (d) No, Sir. The investigation of cases relating to "disproportionate assets" is a time consuming process as it generally involves scrutiny of voluminious documents and examination of a large number of witnesses. However, all the five arrested officials have been placed under suspension.

(e) The decision whether to move for attachment of their properties depends upon the outcome of investigation.

Officials of Delhi Administration under suspension

3238. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of officials of Delhi Administration who are under suspension for the last one year on the recommendations of CBI;

(b) what is the number of officials against whom chargesheets have been filed in the courts; and

(c) whether Government propose to issue direction to the officer concerned to revoke the suspension of the officers against whom charge sheets have not been filed as yet despite the fact that more than a year had passed and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO): (a) and (b) There are at present 28 officials of the Government of the National Capital Territory of Delhi who have been under suspension for one year or more on recommendation of the Central Bureau of Investigation. Of these, Charge-sheets have been filed in the Courts against 18 officials.

(c) The suspension of Government officials is reviewed periodically and decision on revocation of suspension or otherwise is taken on merits of each case.